

SEP 22 2003

RCE/3643

PTO/SB/30 (08-03)

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| Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal Address to: MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | Application Number | 09/986223-Conf. #04981 |
| | Filing Date | October 22, 2001 |
| | First Named Inventor | Gerhard Mueller |
| | Art Unit | 3643 |
| | Examiner Name | Parsley |
| | Attorney Docket No. | 30051/37886 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

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2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 09/23/2003 MBIZUNES 00000076 09986223
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 750.00 OP
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 750.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Jeremy R. Kriegel | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 39,257 |
| Signature | <i>Jeremy R. Kriegel</i> | Date | September 17, 2003 |

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV233431729US, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: September 17, 2003

Signature: *Richard Zimmermann* (Richard Zimmermann)